# St. Andrew's Church, Madras

*Joint Chaplain.*—Rev. Neil Meldrum, M.A., B.D., 2, Victoria Crescent, Egmore.
*Kirk Session.*—The Chaplain, J. R. Atkinson Esq., W. A. Beardsell Esq., Dr. J. R. Henderson, W. Hutton Esq., W. Lamb Esq., R. W. Ross Esq., Capt. A. J. H. Russell, Col. R. Robertson, J. F. Simpson Esq., and the Rev. A. Templeton.
*Church Officer*—Mr. H. Boys, Kirk Villa, Egmore.
*Organist and Choirmaster*—R. L. Hird Esq., Roundhay, Chetput.
*Free School Headmistress*—Mrs. Bennet, St. Andrew's Free School.
*Dorcas Society Secretary*—Mrs. J. R. Atkinson, Goodwood, Kilpauk.
*Women's Guild Secretary*—Mrs. Turner, The Priory, Mount Road.
*Women's Guild Treasurer*—Mrs. F. Thomas, Buckingham Gardens, Perambur.
*Sunday School Superintendent*—H. P. Ashworth Esq., Kalamunda, Nungambakum.
*School Visitation Secretary*—Mrs. Taylor-Mitchell, Luttrell's Gardens, Kilpauk.
*Honorary Auditor*—H. P. Ashworth Esq., Nungambakum.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR REGISTERED 14 MAR 1916 MADRAS

## Church Notices

SITTINGS AND MAGAZINES—Application for vacant sittings should be made to the Clerk, with whom should also be lodged orders for the Monthly Parish Magazine (Rs. 2 per annum), and the Indian Quarterly, *St. Andrew* (8 annas per annum). To seat holders *Life and Work*, with local Supplement, is supplied free. Copies of the Hymnary, Psalter, and Anthem Book, with or without music, may also be purchased from the Church Clerk.

HOURS OF SERVICE—Divine Service is held on Sundays at 8 A.M. and 6 P.M. Choir Practice on Thursdays at 6-15 P.M. Women's Guild meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 4-30 P.M.

HOLY COMMUNION—The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is dispensed after evening service on the first Sunday of every quarter, and after morning service on the sixth Sunday of the quarter.

BAPTISM—The Sacrament of Baptism is administered in the Church on Thursday evenings, or on Sundays after the morning service.

FUNERALS—Funerals should be arranged through an Undertaker.

ST. ANDREW'S CEMETERY—St. Andrew's Cemetery is, by Government order, reserved for the burial of *bona fide* members of St. Andrew's Church and Presbyterian soldiers; and the sanction of the Chaplain has to be obtained.

FREE SCHOOL—There is an Industrial Class in connection with the Free School. Orders for towels, dusters, etc., may be sent to Mrs. Atkinson, "Goodwood," Kilpauk, or to the Church Clerk. The money thus earned helps to defray the salary of an extra teacher.

## Church Notes

*Christmas Services.*—There were very large attendances in church both on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The Carol Service was quite up to the high standard set in previous years, the programme being with one or two exceptions substantially the same as that given by the Choir in the Banquetting Hall, Government House, of which a notice follows. On Christmas Day the Church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, Mr. Boys having lavished all his skill and energy upon a work that he loves so much. I have much pleasure in thanking all those who sent flowers for the decorations, the flowers this year equalling in luxuriance and beauty anything we have ever had before. Among those who were so kind as to send or arrange for flowers being sent, may I mention Mrs. Oakes, Mr. J. W. Short of Ootacamund, and Mrs. Higginbotham and Mrs. Atkinson of Madras. Their beautiful gifts delighted the eye and refreshed the heart.

*Watch Night Service.*—As the Watch Night Service held the previous year seemed to meet a need in the neighbourhood it was decided to continue this service. A very large con-

gregation met on the last night of the year 1915, and the New Year was ushered in with silent prayer. I am greatly indebted to Mr. Hird and the Choir for their wholehearted support in this Service. I had hoped that one or two might be able to attend, but I never expected to find the great majority of the Choir in their places. It was a most pleasant surprise.

*Intercessory Service.*—The Church was well filled at evening service on the first Sunday of the year, the date appointed for the service of Intercession. The Service was conducted by the Chaplain while Mr. R. W. Ross read the Lessons. The Sermon based on the text, "First King of Righteousness, and after that King of Salem which is by incerpretation King of Peace" (Heb. vii. 2) laid stress on the need for Thanksgiving and Intercession. Intercession was made for the bereaved, those who have seen their comrades fall, our country's cause, our King and his Allies and their counsellors, protection for our soldiers and sailors, prisoners of war, the wounded and the dying, all chaplains, physicians, surgeons and nurses and the coming of peace. It included also Thanksgiving for those who have laid down their lives for their country. The singings were "Lord from the Depths", "O God of Love", "The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble", "For all the Saints", and a special hymn for the occasion. The National Anthem was also sung, the Choir under Mr. Hird rising to the height of the occasion and helping very largely to what was a solemn and impressive Service. At the close of the Service the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed to a large company of communicants.

*New Year's Dinner.*—As has been the custom for many years now the poor of the congregation were entertained to dinner in the school-room on Monday, January 3rd. Forty people sat down to the substantial meal provided for them. The Chaplain spoke very briefly to them and Mrs. Davie, in her eloquent and touching way, gave fervent thanks on behalf of the diners. After the dinner was over a short Concert was gone through which needless to say was enjoyed very much by everyone. Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Cooper and Miss Philip attempted to sing the Three Old Maids of Lee, but the humour of the song was too much for them and they had to retire in haste amid their own and the hilarity of the audience. Capt. Russell made a great sensation in his song "Jean, Jean", and Mrs. Russell recited "The Pied Piper of Hamelin" in her best manner and to the delight of everybody. Mrs. Wilson, Miss Stephenson and Miss Atkinson added by their songs to the pleasure of the afternoon while we were greatly indebted both for vocal and instrumental music to the Misses Short from Ootacamund. The School was splendidly decorated and all the arrangements were a tribute to Mr. Boys' organising powers. Thanks to the kindness of many friends, there was a goodly supply of fruit and cakes.

*Children's Treat.*—The Annual Treat was held on the afternoon of Friday, January 7th. There was a large attendance of the children, of the members of the congregation and of the outside public. Though the arrangements were not quite so ambitious as they have been in former years there was quite enough in the way of amusements to make it a very pleasant afternoon for the children. The usual races were run and the competition was extremely keen. After the races, 120 children sat down to a most substantial tea, which needless to say was also appreciated to the full. By the time tea was over darkness was falling and the school was ready for the next part of the entertainment. There was room inside only for the children and the members of the congregation who were interested, and some difficulty was felt in restraining the ardour of the large crowd outside who had been attracted by the wellknown ability of Mr. Boys to provide something interesting for the occasion. After the meeting had been duly opened the special prizes for the year were given away, the Chaplain's Bibles being awarded to Louisa Gideon and Joseph Philbert and Miss Dunhill's prize to Arthur Vanderholt. Mr. Ashworth's report showed a very prosperous year, the average attendance exceeding anything in recent years. The curtain over the stage was then raised and there was laid bare to the admiring eyes of the children the famous Rock of Gibralter frowning with its guns and guarded by battleships. As the children watched a German battleship was foolish enough to try to rush the Straits and was immediately fired upon by the guns of the Rock and of the other ships. The issue was never for a moment in doubt and she went down in flames, a warning to any of her colleagues who may be foolish enough to try the same passage. The scene was then changed and Father Christmas arrived from the Antartic regions in what was suspiciously

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like a Madras rickshaw. His coming had been heralded by the Fairy of the Allies, a dainty figure in white and silver draped in red, white and blue, known in ordinary life as Maggie Boys who sang a sweet little song, If Fairy Tales were true. Father Christmas gave away the prizes to the rest of the children with appropriate messages for each, and then disappeared in his aeroplane. The entertainment which was a great success closed with the singing of the National Anthem. Mr. Ashworth may feel proud of the way in which he organised everything. Mr. R. Theobald made an excellent Father Christmas and as for Mr. Boys it is enough to say that his ingenuity and skill have seldom been seen to greater advantage. It is almost impossible to state the difference that the presence of the lights and fans made on this occasion.

There is a long list of those who sent gifts of cake and fruit for the children and for the poor—Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Pentland, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Taylor Mitchell, Mrs. Hird, Mrs. Organe, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Leith, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Conran and Messrs. Ashworth, Brightwell and Nutall.

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*Christmas Carols.*—Ever since Their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Pentland have been in Madras they have invited on "Twelfth Night" every year the Kirk Choir to Government House, where a programme of Carols is performed, and yesterday, as usual, the members of the Choir were the guests of Their Excellencies. There were altogether twenty-four members, headed by Mr. R. Hird, the Organist, and they were received by Their Excellencies at the Banquetting Hall, in the presence of a large gathering. A pleasant half hour having been spent in tea and conversation, the evening's programme commenced, the older traditional carols, being sung first, interspersed here and there with a few modern numbers. There were also a few solo items and every one was greatly appreciated. Mrs. Hird sang "Rejoice Greatly," from the *Messiah*, and met with warm applause. "When I View the Mother" was rendered in very pleasing style by Mrs. Arthur Scott, and a quartette, "Sleep, Holy Babe," was particularly well rendered, the Soloists, Mrs. Puddephatt, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Steuart and Mr. Samuel, receiving unstinted praise. The singing of the National Anthem by the entire choir brought to a close a very pleasant evening. H. E. the Governor, before the guests dispersed, congratulated Mr. Hird and the members of his Choir on the musical treat they had provided.—*Madras Mail*, January 13th.

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*Free School.*—The Free School re-opened on January 17th, with a good attendance. Miss Callaghan left during the holidays. Miss Staggs has taken her place. The prospects for the future look very bright. Two days after the opening the Annual Examination was sprung upon us, but Mr. Thomson, the Inspector, was very helpful. We are anxiously waiting for his report. During the holidays the school children spent a delightful afternoon at the 'Priory,' the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Turner, with games and all the things dear to the hearts of children. The children were driven to and fro in one of Messrs. Binny & Co.'s Motor Lorries and the drive was not the least pleasant part of the outing. The school owes a deep debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Turner for this and many another kindness.

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*Sunday School.*—Sunday School resumed on Sunday, January 9th, with an attendance of eighty-six, and will continue now to the beginning of the hot weather.

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*School Lights and Fans.*—I have great pleasure in acknowledging a very handsome donation of Rs. 150 from Mr. W. A. Beardsell, towards the cost of the lights and fans in the school. This brings the sum up to Rs. 300, the cost of the installation being Rs. 644.

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*Women's Guild.*—The Guild resumed its meetings on Thursday, January 20th. The ladies are busily engaged in the meantime in getting ready garments for our soldiers. Not satisfied with that, they propose holding a tea and concert in the school-room for the benefit of the Territorials in the Fort. The date fixed is Friday, February 4th, and all members of the congregation are cordially invited to help.

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*Auditor's Certificate.*—Mr. Ashworth has kindly sent the following certificate, dated 16th December, 1915: "I certify that the Accounts for September, October and November have been examined by me and found correct." (Signed) H. Percy Ashworth.

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*Obituary.*—On December there was laid to rest in St. Andrew's Cemetery all that was mortal of Miss Jessie Silver, sister of the Rev. A. Silver, our missionary at Arkonam. Miss Silver came out a year ago to help in the

work of the St. Andrew's Colonial Homes, Kalimpong, under Dr. Graham. She intended to spend her Christmas leave with her brother at Arkonam, but she took ill in Madras, never rallied and passed away in the General Hospital on December. In the short time she had been in India Miss Silver had won the esteem and the friendship of all her colleagues at Kalimpong where she will be greatly missed. All our sympathy goes out to her friends and especially to her brother in this sudden and sad bereavement.

COLLECTIONS, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

| 1915 | | Rs. | A. | P. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| December 5th, Ordinary | ... | 93 | 0 | 5 |
| ,, 12th ,, | ... | 53 | 3 | 6 |
| ,, 19th ,, | ... | 59 | 12 | 4 |
| ,, 24th, Poor Fund | ... | 45 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, 25th ,, | ... | 133 | 14 | 3 |
| ,, 26th, Ordinary | ... | 56 | 13 | 6 |
| ,, ,, Donation | ... | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | ... | 491 | 14 | 6 |

## Mission Notes

*Miss Bain.*—We congratulate Miss Bain on passing her first Tamil Examination. She has now taken over charge of the High School, Kilpauk. Last year, for three months, she taught Mathematics in the Women's Christian College, Madras, where her work was greatly appreciated.

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*Miss Graham.*—We are glad to welcome Miss Graham back again safe and well after her adventurous travels through China and Siberia, and exciting voyage from home.

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*The Schools*—The year closed with a record attendance in all the schools. Statistics are usually dry reading, but the following figures, showing the number of children under instruction in the Mission, may be of interest. All the schools show considerable increase on the preceding year. Georgetown School leads the way with 435 pupils. This is the largest school of its kind in the Presidency and has earned the highest grant. Triplicane follows with 340. In this popular school admissions have to be reduced for lack of accommodation. In Pursewalkam the members have risen from 154 to 212. The two schools taken over last year from the L. M. S. Mission make between them 316. The High School is full to overflowing and one class is held in the Mission House. There are 150 in the school and when the extension to the building is finished more can be admitted. With 97 pupils in the Industrial Department and 80 in the zenanas, the numbers total 1,630. This does not include Puliantope School which, although now supported by the Tamil Congregation, is still supervised by the Mission.

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*Georgetown School.*—Alterations and improvements in the Georgetown School building are now completed at a cost of Rs. 31,344, of which sum a little over one-fourth was received from home. The remainder has to be found locally by means of grants, sales, donations and subscriptions. Of this amount Rs. 2,776 is still required. We are most grateful to St. Andrew's Women's Guild for a recent donation of Rs. 300 towards this object.

J. F.

## CHURCH REGISTER

### Baptisms

*"Suffer little children to come unto Me."*

January 16th, 1916—Robert Hunter, son of Francis and Martha Boyd Chatterton.
January 16th, 1916—David, son of William and Isabella Fyfe.

### Burials

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."*

*St. Andrew's Cemetery*

December 22nd, 1915—Jessie Silver, aged 40.
January 14th, 1916—James Reid Petrie Alexander, aged 58½.

*Kilpauk Cemetery*

December 27th, 1915—Annie Vine, aged 72.